

CLADOSPORIUM CITRI MASS. AND C. ELEGANS PENZ. CONFUSED

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A series of errors that need to be corrected appears to have crept into plant disease literature, as to the name of the fungus causing "scab" or "verrucosis" of *Citrus*. The first account of this disease was published by F. Lamson-Scribner in October, 1886.* A fuller account with a colored plate appeared in the annual report of the U. S. Commissioner of Agriculture for 1886 (pp. 120-121). Scribner referred to the fungus as *Cladosporium* sp. A detailed account of the disease and the fungus was later published by W. T. Swingle and H. J. Webber,† who also referred to the fungus as *Cladosporium* sp.

In Tubeuf and Smith's "Diseases of Plants," published in 1897, reference is made on p. 509 to the above authors under the name of *Cladosporium elegans* Penz. This is the beginning of the errors. That the citrus scab referred to by Scribner is not *Cladosporium elegans* is evident from Penzig's description and figures in "Studi Botanici Sugli Agrumi," published in 1887. The dimensions of the spores of *C. elegans* are too large and the pathological effects on the leaf as figured by Penzig are not at all the same as those described by Scribner. The spores of the former are given as $18-20 \times 5-6\mu$, while the latter are $8-9 \times 2.5-4\mu$.

Massee, in his "Text-book of Plant Diseases," published in 1899, described both fungi. On p. 310, he describes the scab under the name of *Cladosporium Citri* "protem," and says: "This *Cladosporium* species is evidently quite distinct from *Cladosporium elegans* Penz. which forms arid, brown spots on living leaves of oranges in Italy." An error in print, however, occurs on p. 436 of the same book, where a technical description of the fungus is given under the heading '*Cladosporium Citri*

* Bull. Torrey Club 13: 181-183. 1886.

† Bull. Div. Veg. Phys. & Path. 8: 20-24. 1896.

Penzig." This error is responsible for the writer's error in the annual report of the Florida Experiment Station for 1907, p. xxiii, where the fungus is mentioned as *Cladosporium Citri* Penz., instead of *Cladosporium Citri* Mass. Presumably as a result of Tubeuf and Smith's mistake, this fungus has been erroneously referred to as *Cladosporium elegans* Penz. in the following publications:

"Citrus Fruits and Their Culture," by H. H. Hume, published in 1904.

"First Annual Report of the Cuban Experiment Station, for 1904, 1905," by F. S. Earle.

"Bulletin 9 of the Cuban Experiment Station," by M. T. Cook and W. T. Horne, 1909.

Specimens of this fungus have been issued recently in "Fungi Columbiani" by E. Bartholomew under the name of *Cladosporium Citri* Mass., which is undoubtedly the name by which it should be designated.

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